

# We Must Take the Next Steps Towards Safe, Routine Space Travel

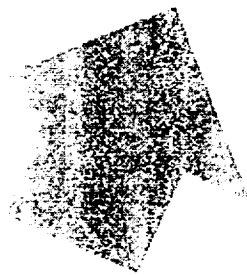
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SP/CF  
TRANSPORTATION  
DAY

## 6 1/2 Generations of Airplanes in a Century

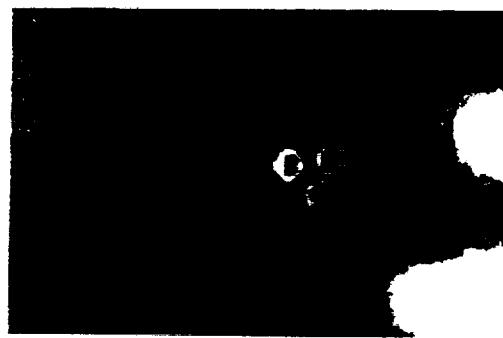


Wright Flyer (1903)



Boeing 777 (Today)

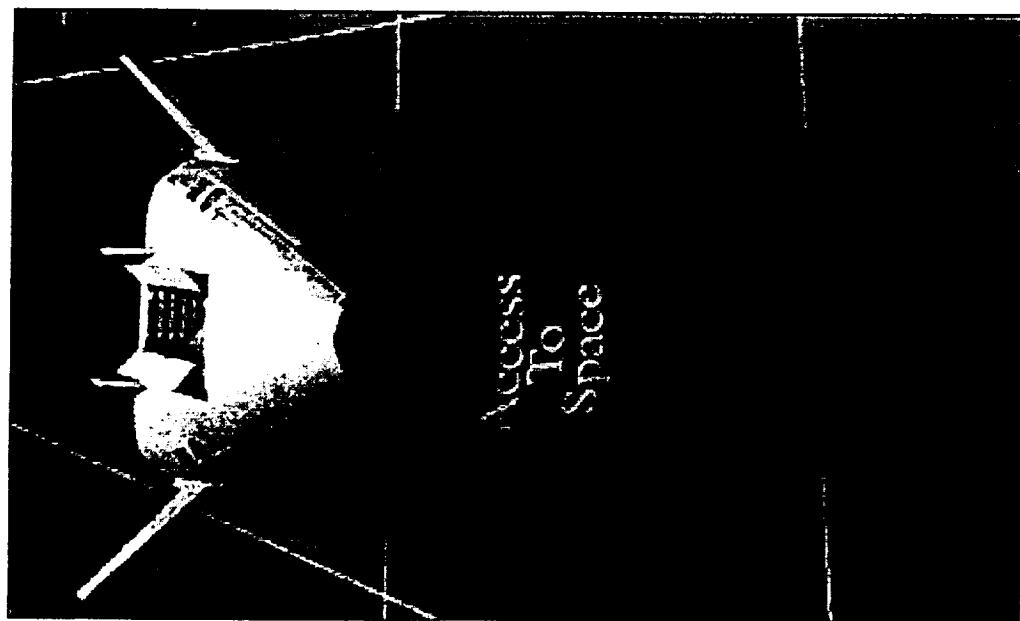
## 1st Generation Reusable Launch Vehicle (1981 - Today)



## Enterprise Goals

### GOALS: Earth-to-Orbit

- ◆ Within 10 years,
  - Increase the safety by two orders of magnitude
  - Reduce the cost to NASA transportation of placing payloads in orbit by one order of magnitude.
- ◆ Within 25 years,
  - Increase the safety by four orders of magnitude.
  - Reduce the cost of placing payloads in orbit by two orders of magnitude.



### GOALS: In-Space Transportation

- ◆ Within 15 years,
  - A factor of ten reduction in the cost of Earth orbital transportation.
  - A factor of two to three reduction in propulsion system mass and travel time required for planetary missions.
- ◆ Within 25 Years,
  - Enable bold new missions to the edge of the solar system and beyond by reducing travel times by one to two orders of magnitude.

# Generations of Reusable Launch Vehicles



**Today: Space Shuttle**

## 1st Generation RLV

- ◆ Orbital Scientific Platform
- ◆ Satellite Retrieval and Repair
- ◆ Satellite Deployment
- ◆ Space Transportation
- ◆ Rendezvous, Docking, Crew Transfer
- ◆ Other on-orbit operations
- ◆ ISS Orbital Scientific Platform
- ◆ 10x Cheaper
- ◆ 100x Safer

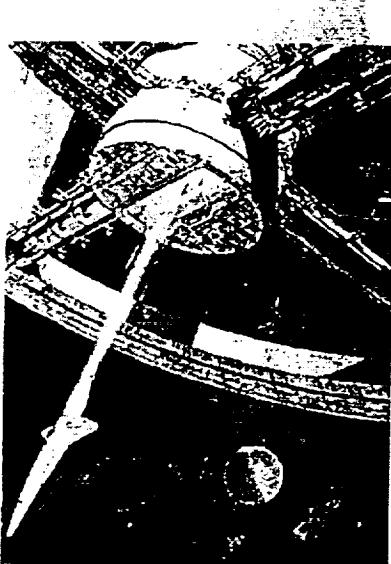


## 2010: 2nd Generation RLV



## 2025: 3rd Generation RLV

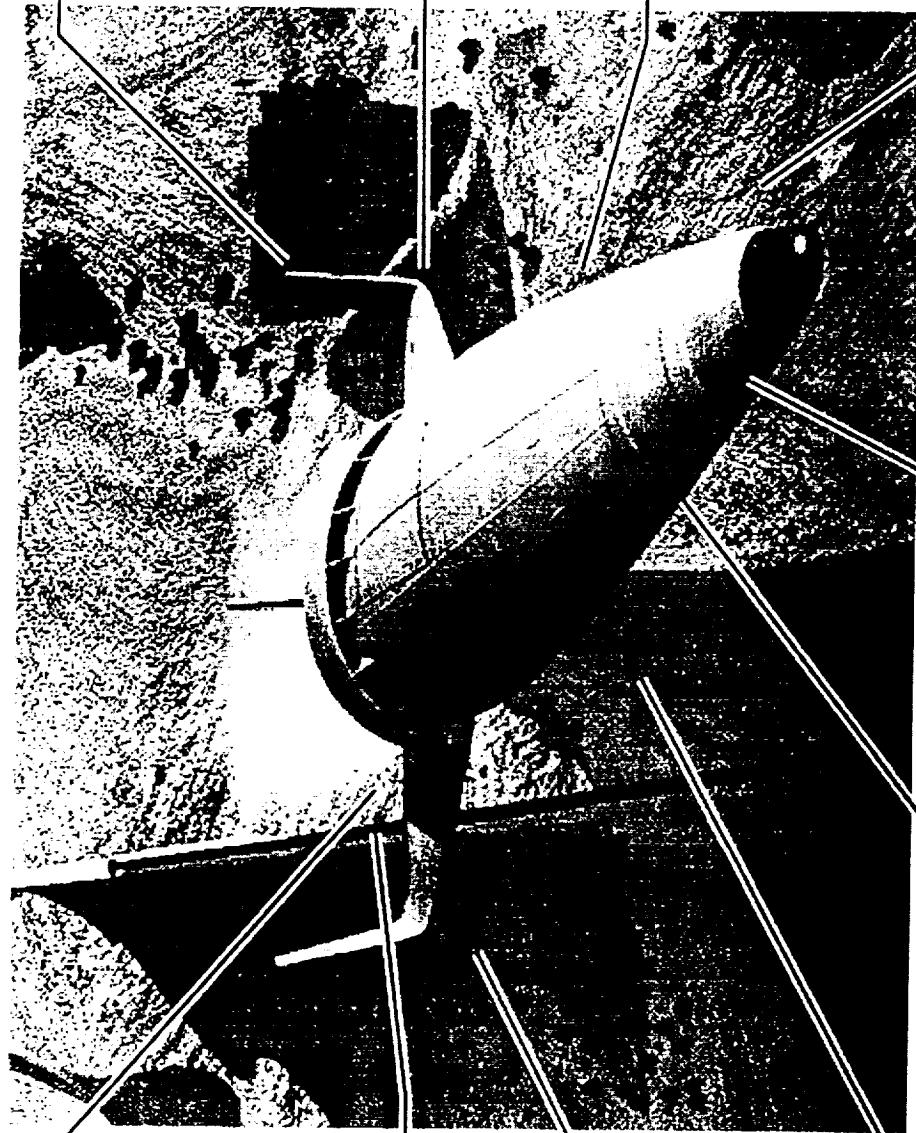
- ◆ New Markets Enabled
- ◆ Multiple Platforms / Destinations
- ◆ 100x Cheaper
- ◆ 10,000x Safer



## 2040: 4th Generation RLV

- ◆ Routine Passenger Space Travel
- ◆ 1,000x Cheaper
- ◆ 20,000x Safer

# Space Transportation Across NASA



## Ames Research Center

- Non Metallic Thermal Protection Systems
- Computational Tools
- Information Systems
- Rocked Propulsion Systems

## Stennis Space Center

- Vehicle Definition

## Kennedy Space Center

- Payload and Launch Operations
- Testing Facility
- IV&M
- Cryo Testbed

## Dryden Flight Research Center

- Atmospheric Flight Operations

## Johnson Space Center

- Crew and Passenger Systems

## Langley Research Center

- Airframe Design
- Integrated Thermal Structures
- Materials Research
- Combined Cycle Propulsion
- In-Space Propulsion Concepts
- Microelectromechanical Sensors

## Glenn Research Center

- Power Systems
- Advanced Propellant
- Propulsion Materials
- Combined-Cycle Propulsion

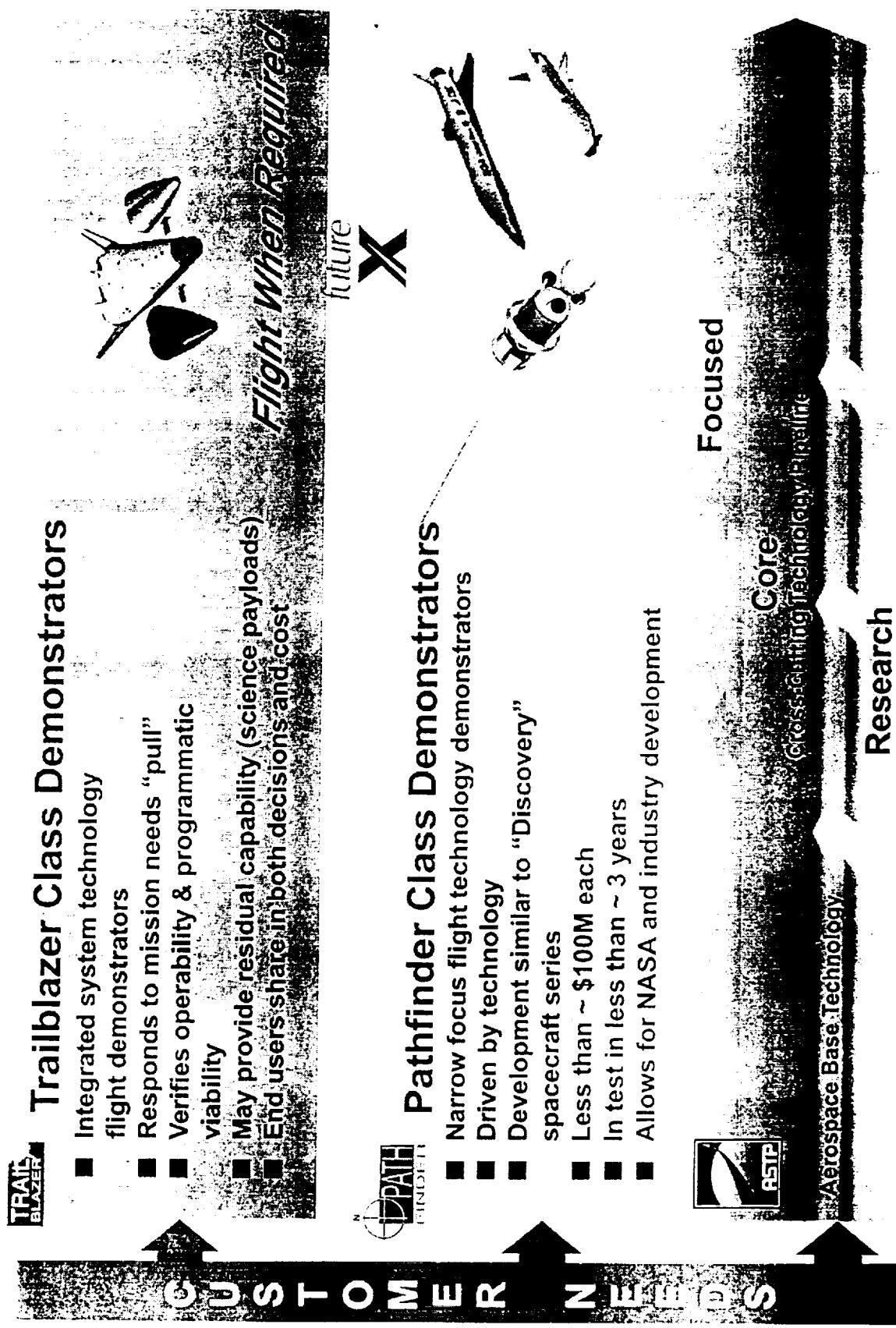
## Marshall Space Flight Center (Lead Center)

- System Integration
- Propulsion Systems
- Avionics Systems
- Design and Integration
- Advance Manufacturing
- Combined-Cycle Propulsion

## Air Force Research Lab

- System Integration
- Propulsion Systems
- Avionics Systems
- Combined-Cycle Propulsion

# Three Tiered Implementation Approach for Future Space Transportation Technology





"We cannot foresee the ingenuity that companies, established or entrepreneurial, will bring to the building of new industries in the 21st century based upon the Highway to Space"

### Interstellar Propulsion Research

### RLV Focused

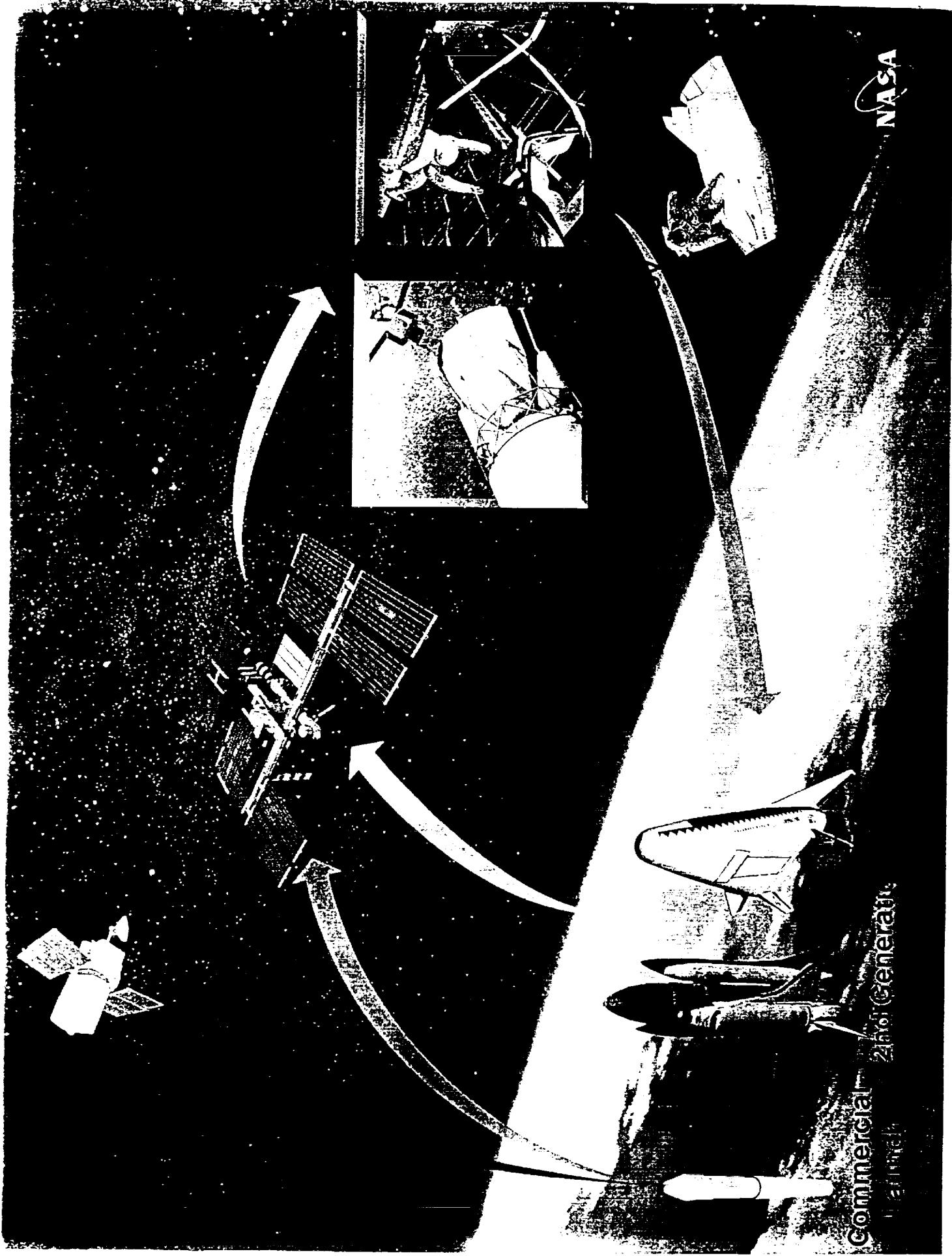
### In-Space Transportation

### Space Shuttle Upgrades

## *Develop a Comprehensive, Agency Level Space Transportation Plan That Will Enable NASA's Strategic Plan*

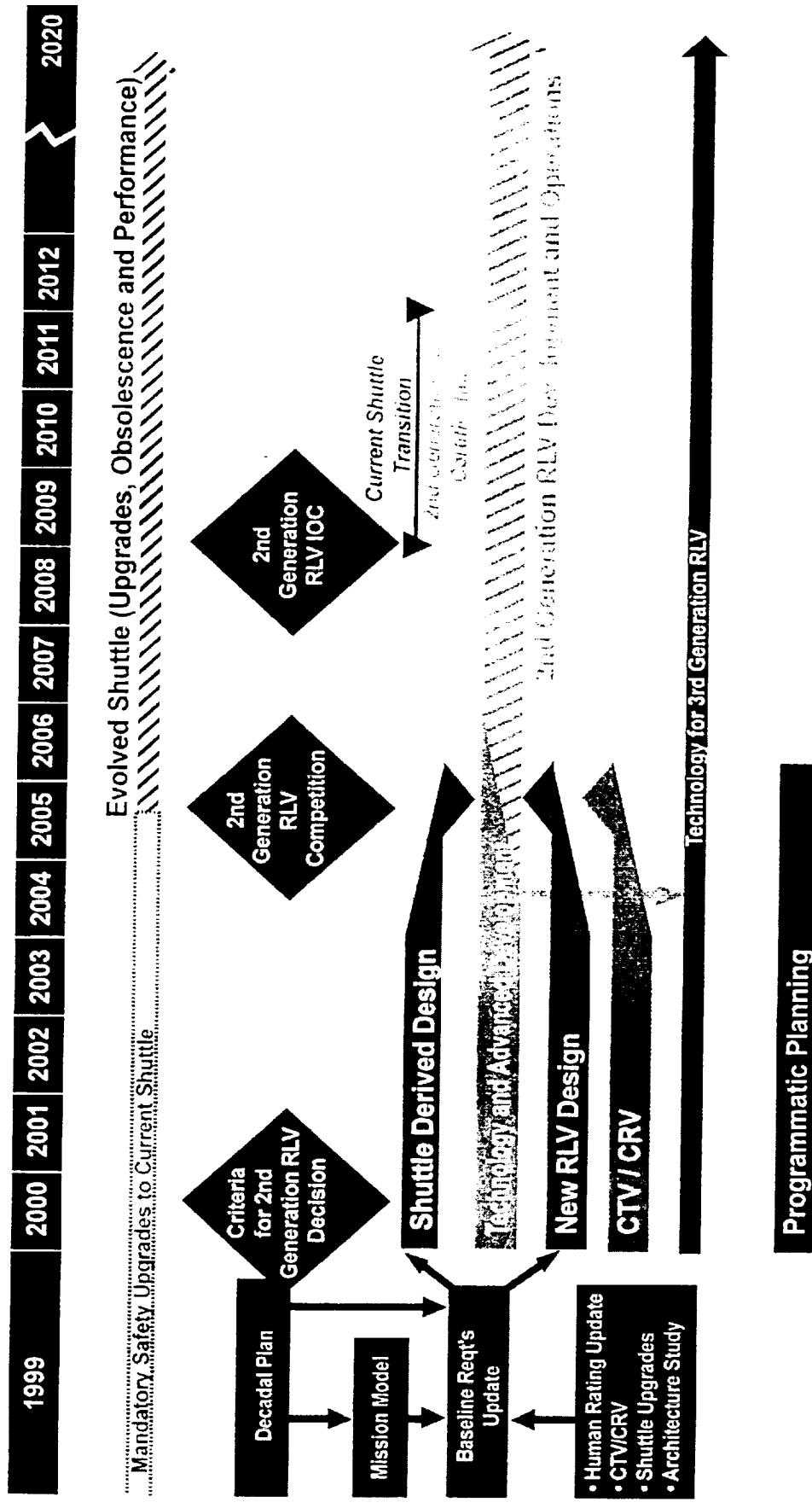
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- ♦ **Focus on Safety, Reliability, Cost and NASA mission requirements** while making maximum use of US aerospace industry capabilities and commercial market leverage
- ♦ **Enable a competition at an acceptable level of risk** for a 2nd generation Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) by 2005 which could include Shuttle-derived and new design RLV concepts
- ♦ **Secure NASA's future through investments in 3rd generation RLV technologies for Earth-to-orbit and in-space applications**
- ♦ **Ensure Continued Safe Access to Space through Space Shuttle Safety Upgrades until a replacement alternative has been demonstrated**



Commercial  
Space

# Timeline for Addressing NASA's Needs



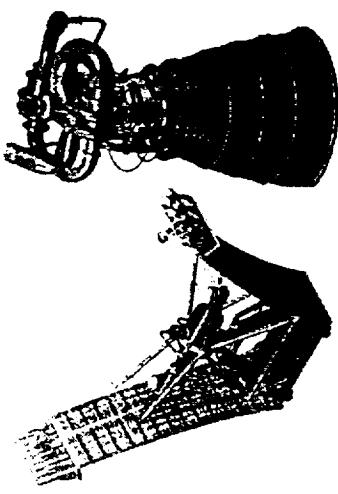
## Significant 2nd Generation Technology Drivers

- ◆ **Crew Escape and Survival**
  - Detection, separation, ascent/descent
- ◆ **Operable, Long-life H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> and RP/O<sub>2</sub> Engines**
  - 200 mission life, 100 missions to overhaul
- ◆ **Long life, lightweight integrated airframe**
  - Critical integrated cycle testing (500 missions)
- ◆ **Advanced TPS, IVHM, and Operations**
  - Quick turn vehicle with intelligent data analysis
- ◆ **Ejector Ramjet**
  - Improved performance margin
- ◆ **SHARP Leading Edges** *Cutting Edge for 2nd Generation*
  - Global crossrange from orbit

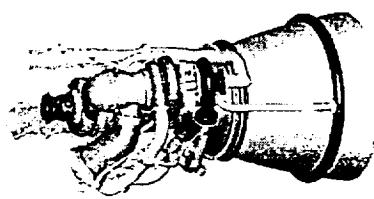


## Significant Commonality Between Shuttle Derived and New Design RLV Needs

## Example Large Scale Ground Demonstrations



LOx/LH<sub>2</sub> Engine Prototypes



LOx/Hydrocarbon  
Engine Prototype



Ejector Ramjet Testbed



Crew Escape Demonstrations

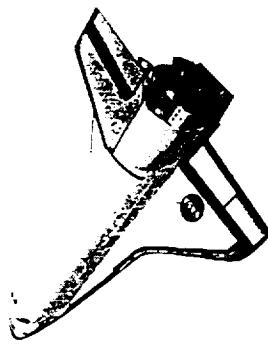
Integrated Airframe  
Life Cycle Testing



Large Scale Advanced Mfg

 SP/CE  
TRANSPORTATION  
DAY

## Example Pathfinder Demonstrations



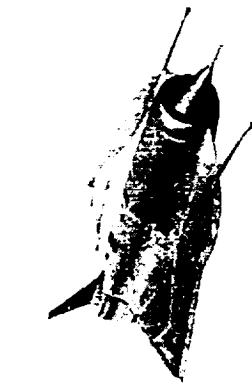
Additional X-34 and  
X-37 Experiments  
And Demonstrations



### Space Shuttle Experiments



### Reusable First Stage



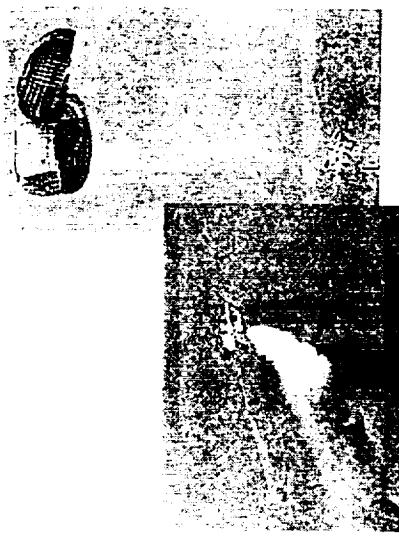
### Rocket Based Combined Cycle Experiments



SHARP Materials /  
High Lift/Drag Experiments



Crew Escape Demonstrations  
(Narrow Envelope / Subscale)

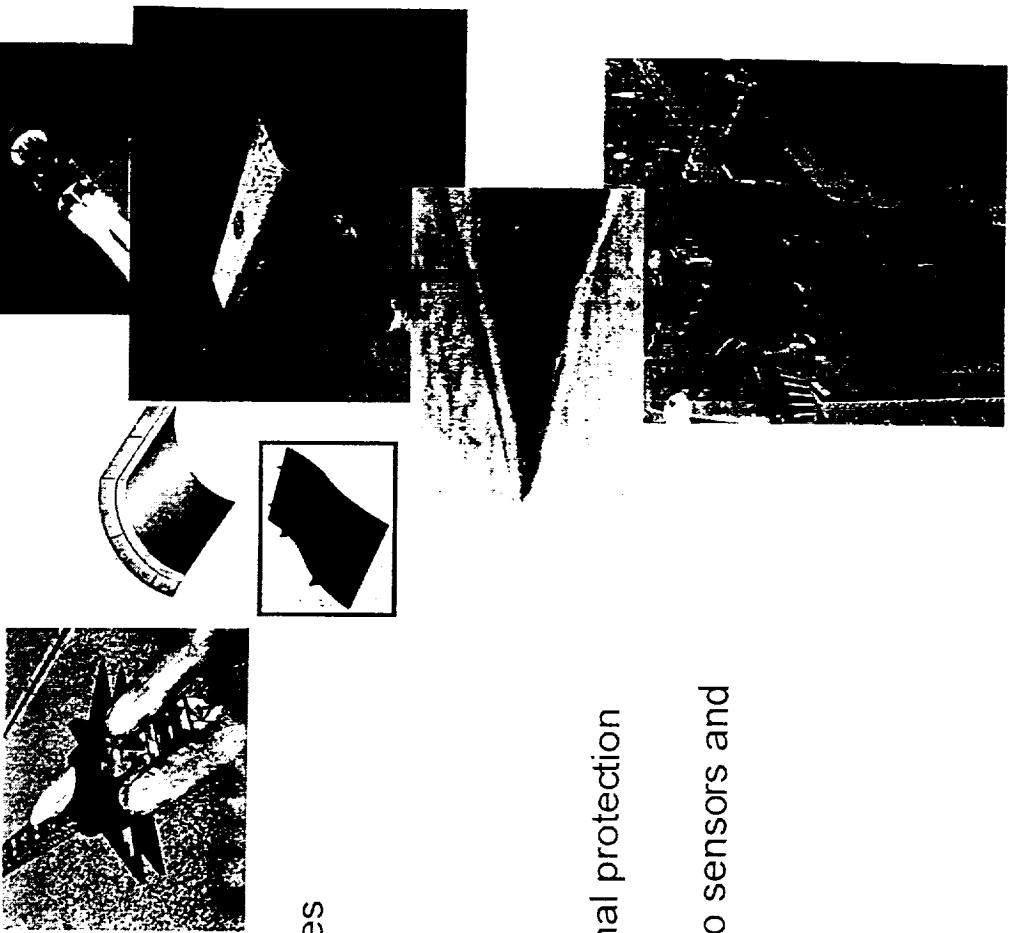


Rapid Operations  
Demonstrations

## 3rd Generation Technology Drivers

### ♦ Dramatic Propulsion Performance Improvement

- RBCC/TBCC - Dual Mode Ramjet/Scramjet
- PDE - Pulse Detonation Rocket Engine / Combined Cycle Engine



### ♦ Low Drag aerodynamic structures

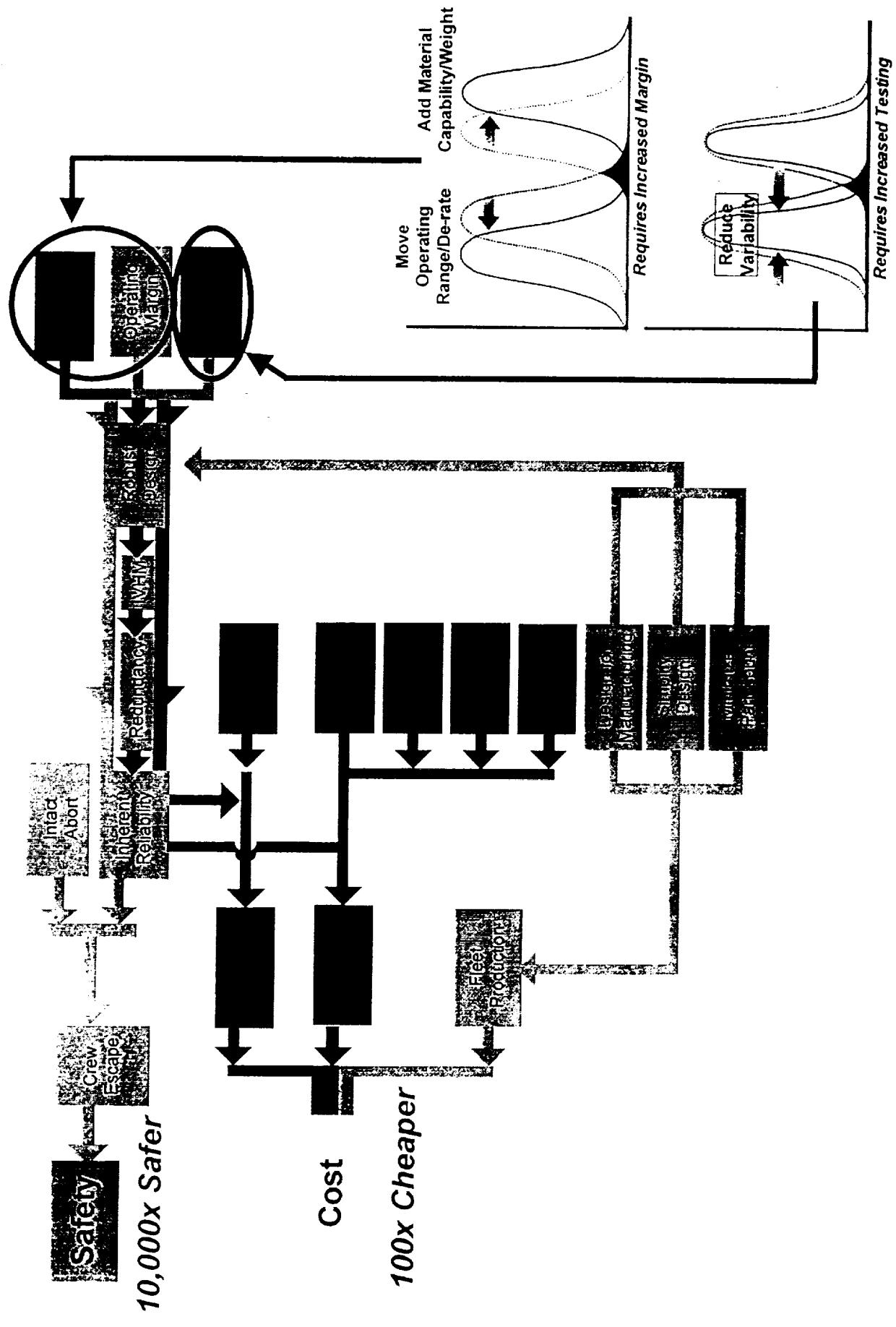
- SHARP ultra-high temperature ceramics
- Integrated smart/adaptive thermal-structures
- Morphing structures
- Drag modulation through electromagnetics and flow physics

### ♦ Adaptive Intelligent Systems

- Adaptive, self-diagnosis, self-healing thermal protection systems
- Structurally integrated, wireless, micro/nano sensors and avionics
- Regenerative sensors and system healing
  - Autonomous, adaptive control

### ♦ Spaceport Range Operations

# Systems Approach to Safety, Reliability and Cost





# ASTP Organization is Driven By Goals

Overview

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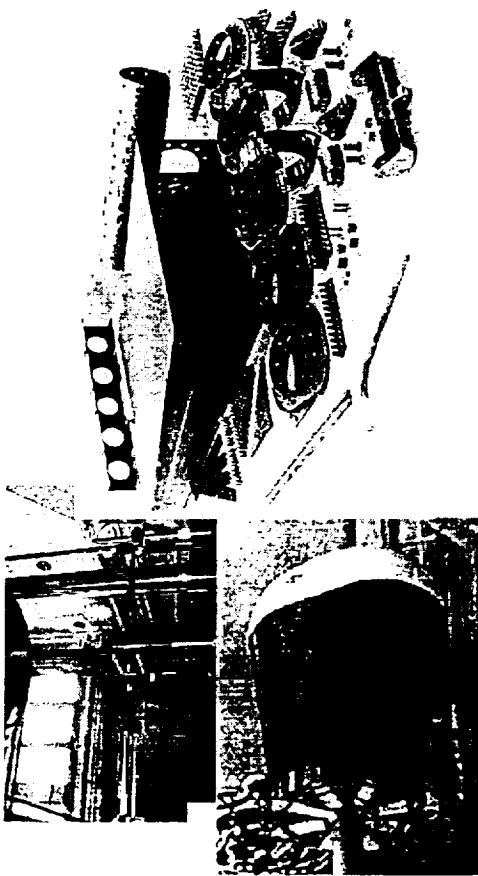
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RLV Focused Project

# Technical Challenges

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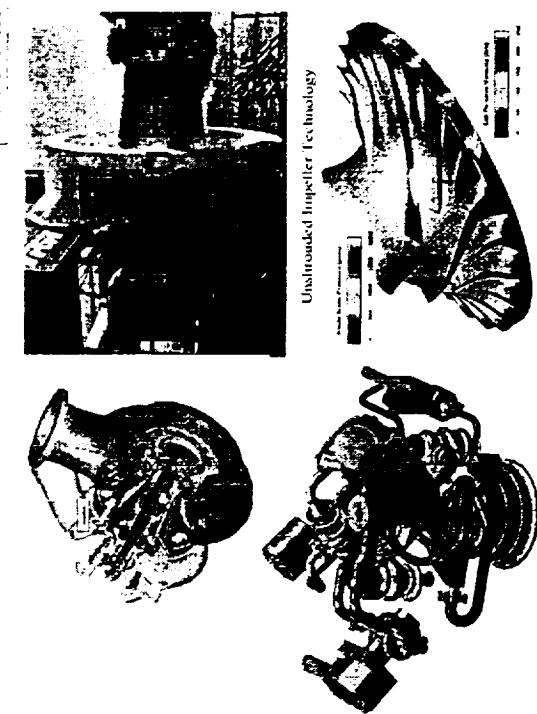
## Composite Tank and Structures (LaRC)

- Materials and Manufacturing Processes



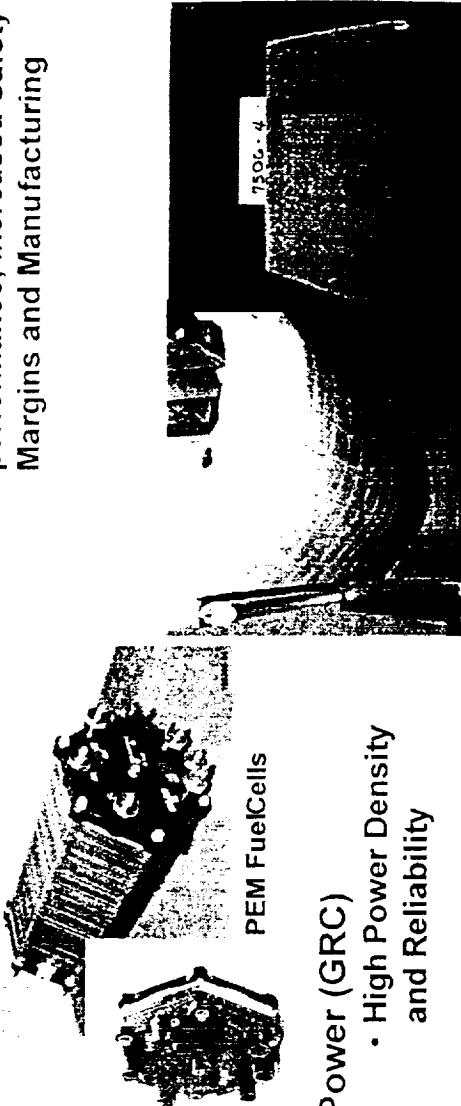
## Propellant Densification (GRC)

- Reduced GLOW



## Propulsion (MSFC)

- Light weight, High-performance, Increased Safety Margins and Manufacturing



## Power (GRC)

- High Power Density and Reliability



## TPS and Hot Structures (ARC/LaRC)

- Materials, Waterprooing, and Manufacturing

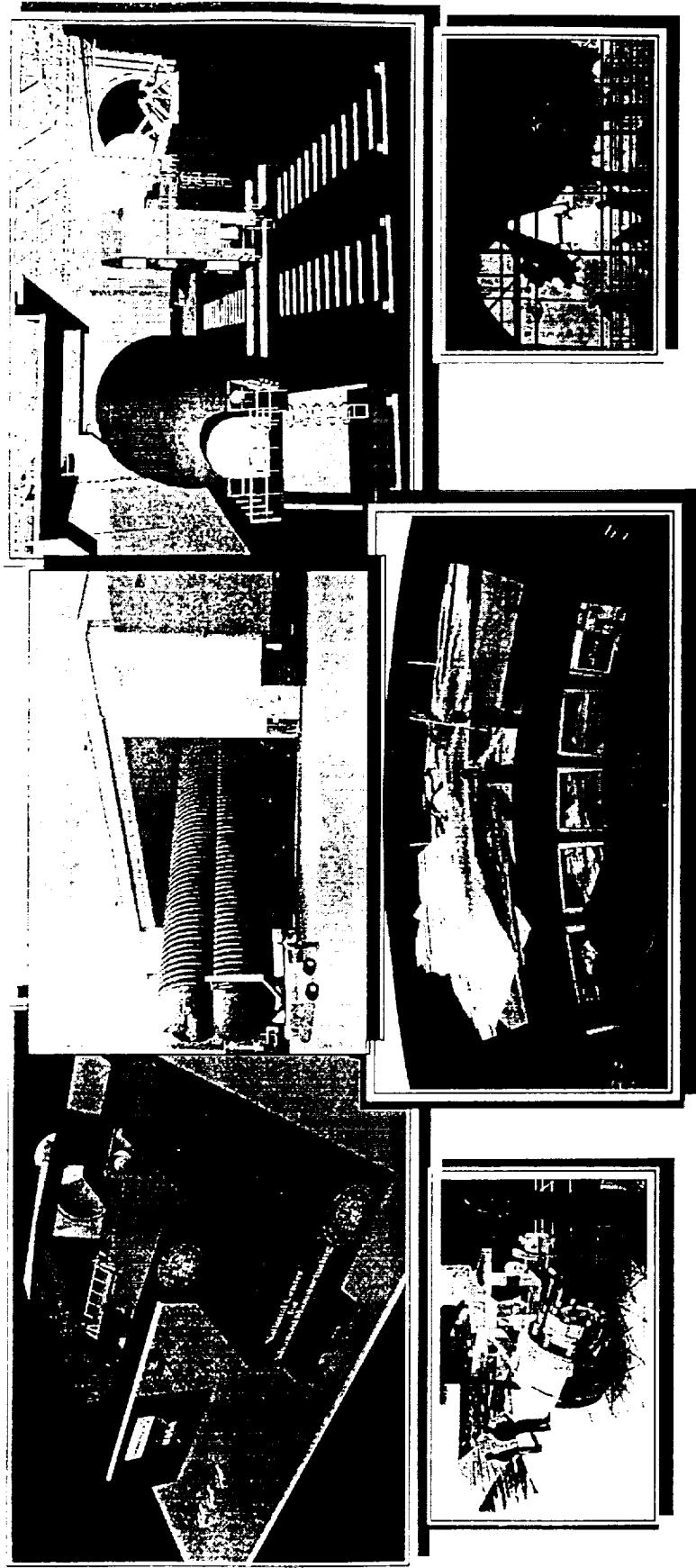


# National Center for Advanced Manufacturing

## Manufacturing Technology Development

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RLV Focused Project

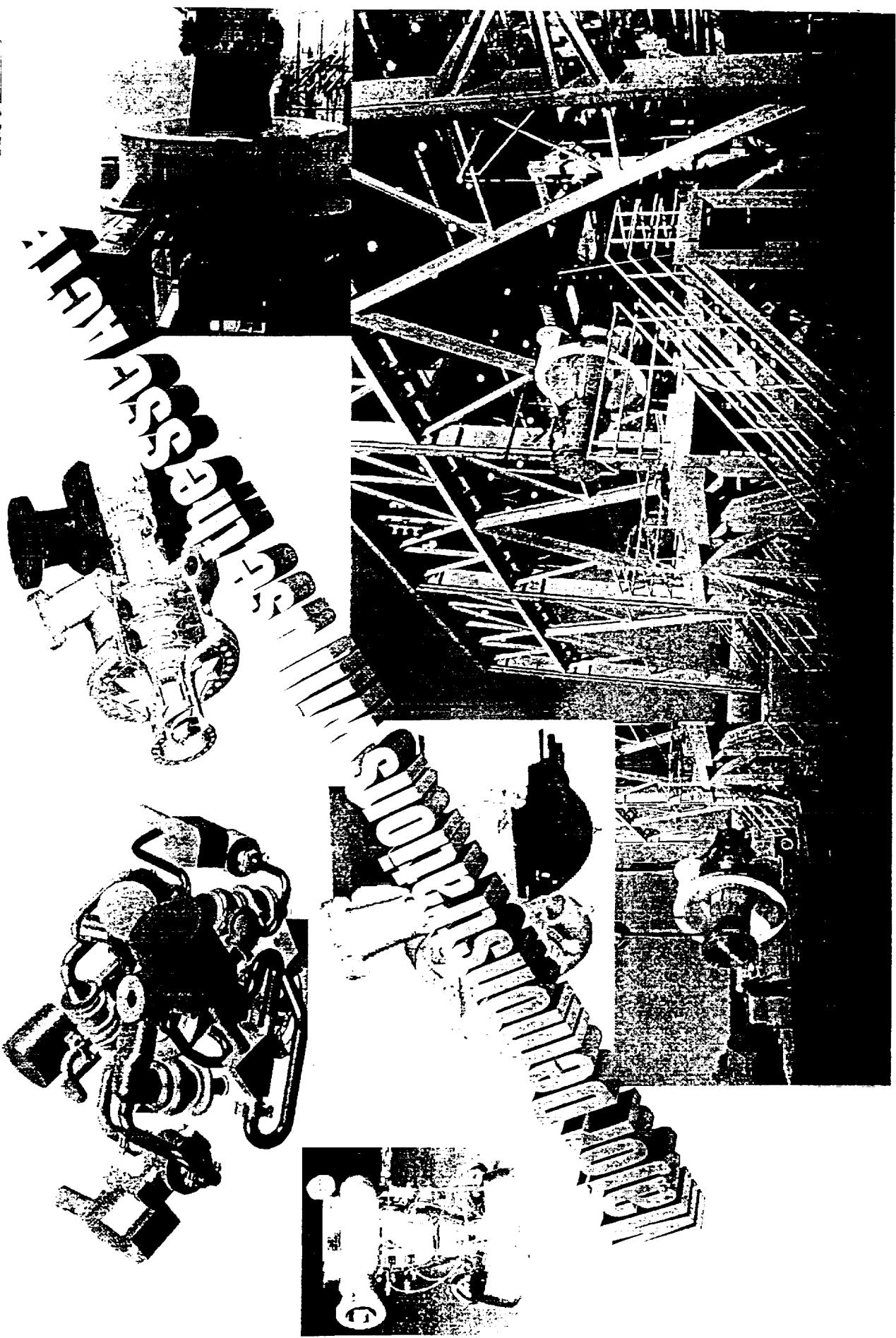


- *Provide World Class Manufacturing Capability Enabling Future Space Transportation Systems*
- *Strengthen U.S. Competitiveness in Aerospace/Commercial Markets*
- *Create Federal, State, University and Industry Mfg. Partnerships*
- *Enhance Educational Development*
- *Effect a cultural change in Manufacturing to Intelligent-Collaborative Environment*

# Large Scale Propulsion Testbeds/Demonstrations

RLV Focused Project

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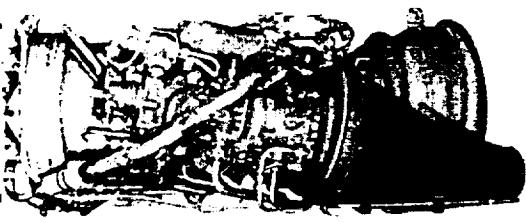
# Two Focused Investments

Upperstage Technology Project

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## ◆ Peroxide/RP Propulsion

AR2-3 Test Program  
Boeing Rocketdyne SAA

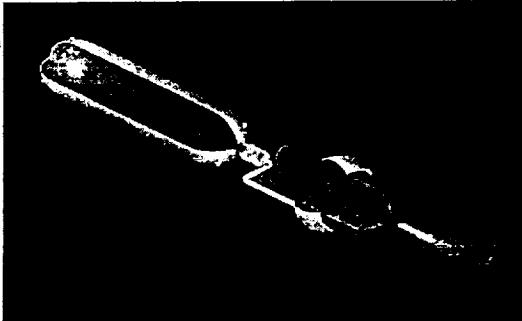


Advanced Catalysts,  
Ignitors, & Turbopumps  
Boeing Rocketdyne CA  
Aerojet CA  
TRW/GK/Purdue FFPC  
FMC FFPC

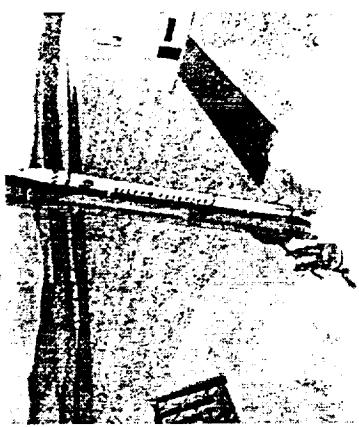


Upper Stage  
Flight Experiment  
• Pressure fed engine  
• Common bulkhead  
composite structures  
Orbital Sciences-IFCC

## ◆ Peroxide/Hybrid Propulsion



Hybrid Sounding  
Rocket (HYSR)  
LMMSS-SAA



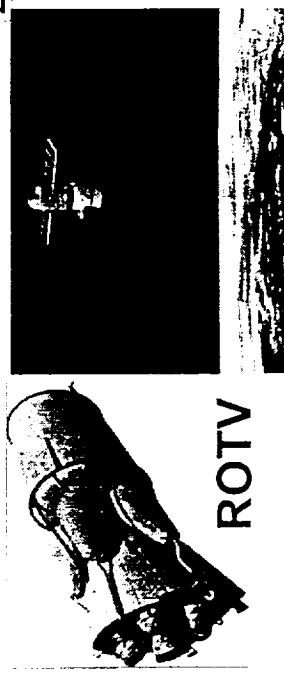
LMA/Thiokol/Boeing-IFCC



# Scope of Space Transfer Technology Project

Space Transfer Technology Project  
2000 PMC

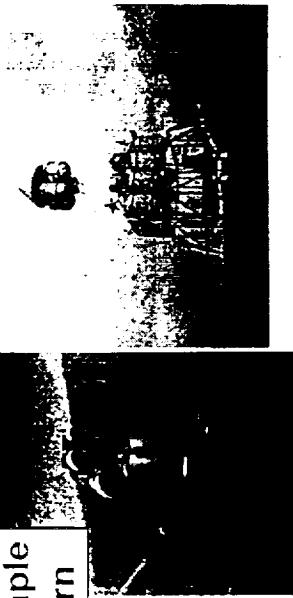
## Orbital Transfer Vehicles



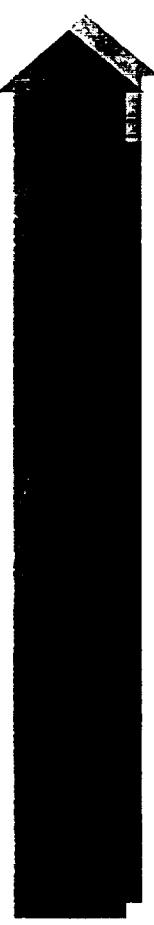
ROTV



Sample return



In-Situ Prop/  
Ascent Chem  
Prop Stage



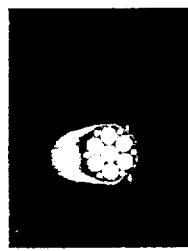
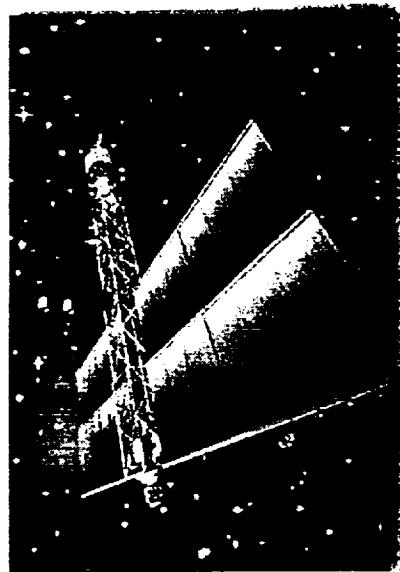
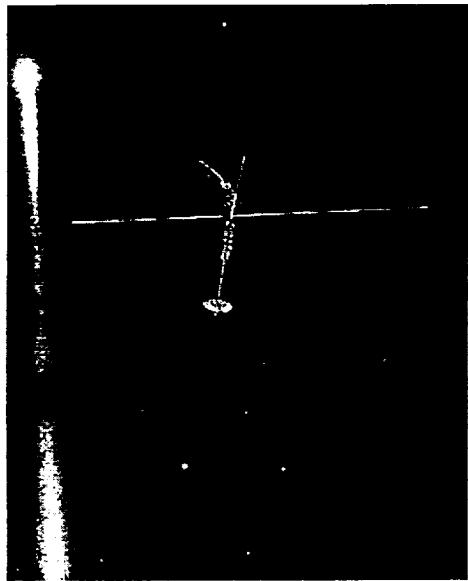


# Interstellar Precursor Technologies

*Interstellar Precursor Project*

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## Solar Sails



Nuclear  
Electric  
Propulsion



*Propulsion Technology Project*

*2000 PMC*

## Technical Challenges

- ♦ Improved propulsion performance to specific impulse (Isp) > 500 sec using combined cycle air-breathing rocket propulsion
- ♦ Increased all propulsion system thrust-to-weight ratio through the use of metal matrix composites, ceramics, and other advanced materials
- ♦ Increased propulsion life cycle capability to 500 missions through advanced design techniques and materials
- ♦ Decrease development cost through advanced design techniques and robust testing



## *Propulsion Technology Project*

# Accomplishments

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- ◆ **Aerojet & Rocketdyne Flowpath Tested**
  - Test Conducted From M 0 to Mach 8
  - Total Of 253 Test Conducted
  - Good Overall Performance

- ◆ **Several First In Testing**
  - Dynamic Trajectory Simulation (AAR  $\rightarrow$  RAM and RAM  $\rightarrow$  SCRAM))
  - SCRAM Testing @ High Dynamic Pressure (M8 @ 1,200 Psf)

- ◆ **Parametric Test Performed By Pennsylvania State University**

- ◆ **Trailblazer Concept Development**
  - Lead By Glenn Research Center
  - Currently Testing @ GASL

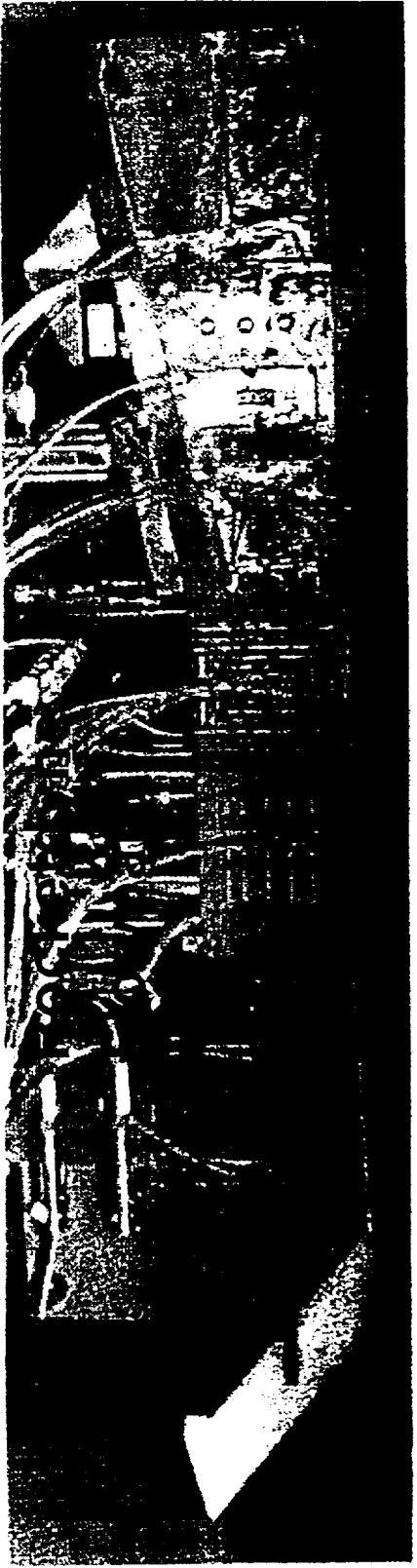
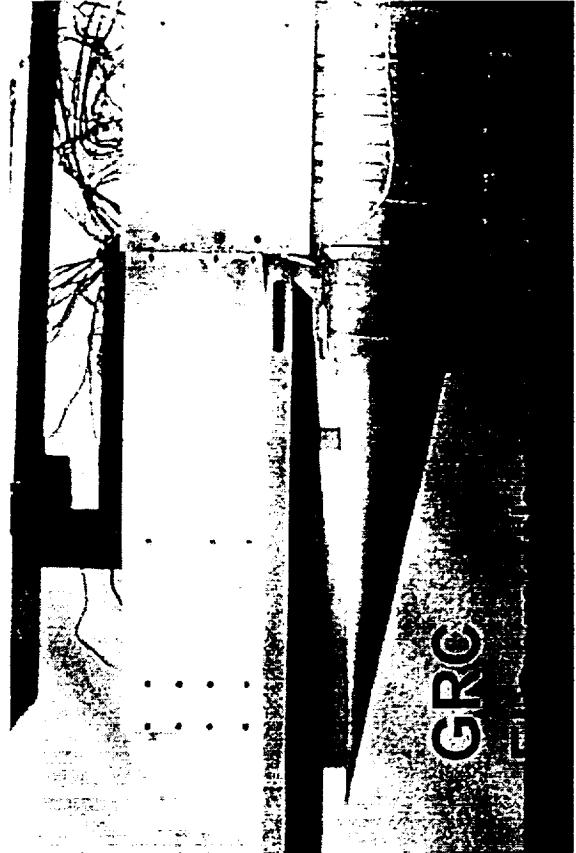
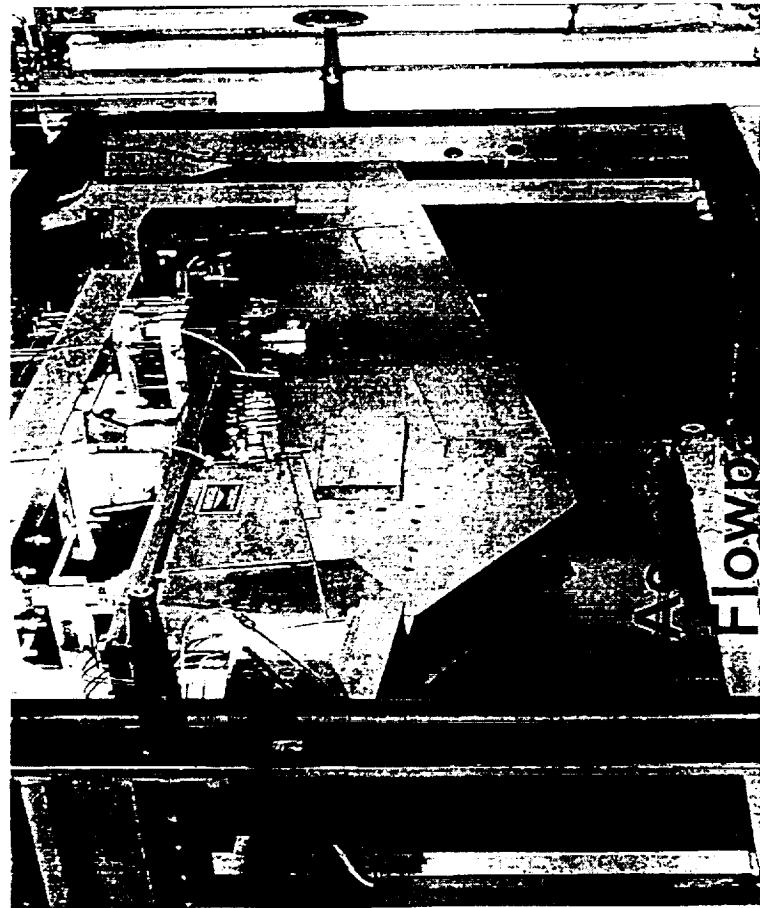
- ◆ **System Studies**
  - Various Vehicle/Engine Combinations Being Studied
    - RBCC
    - TBCC
    - PDE
  - Sensitivity Trades Being Made
    - Trajectories
    - Fineness ratio
    - Payload capability



# RBCC Flowpath Test Hardware

*Propulsion Technology Project*

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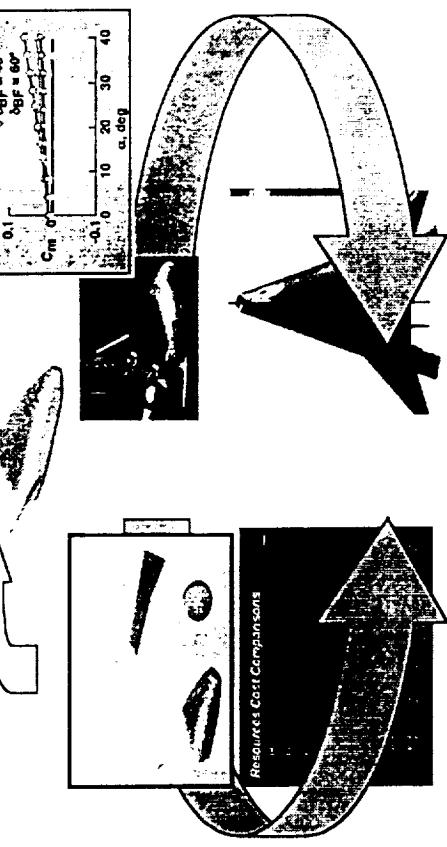




Airframe Technology Project

## Airframe Technology Elements

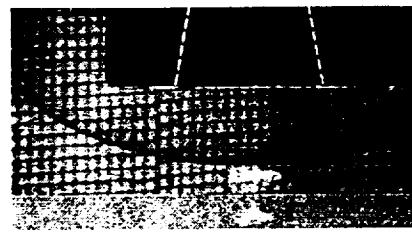
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## Integrated Airframe Design (LaRC Lead)



## Integrated Thermal Structures and Materials (LaRC Lead)



## Thermal Protection Systems (ARC Lead)

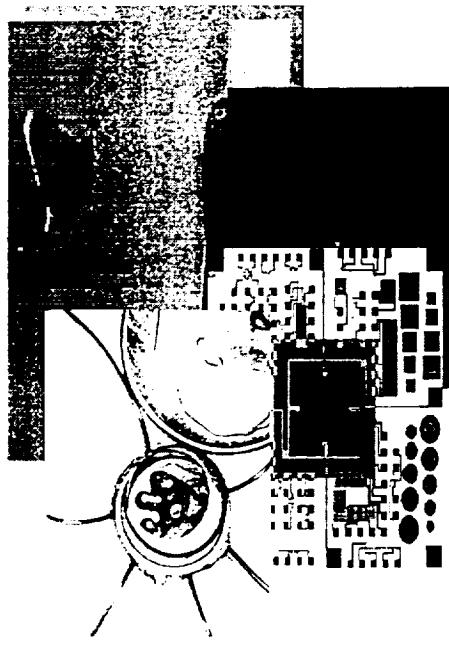
Aero/Aerothermo Enhancement  
(LaRC Lead)  
No FY00 Funding



# Launch Technologies Elements

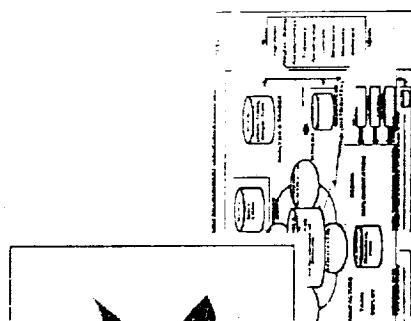
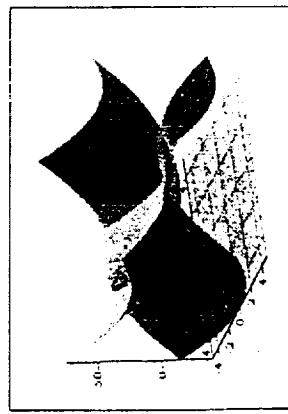
Launch Technologies Project

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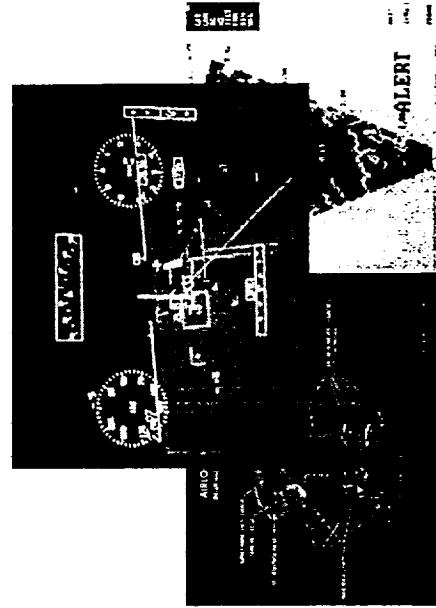
## Avionics and Flight Control

Lead Center - MSFC



## Power

Lead Center - GRC



## Integrated Design and Analysis tools

Lead Center - MSFC

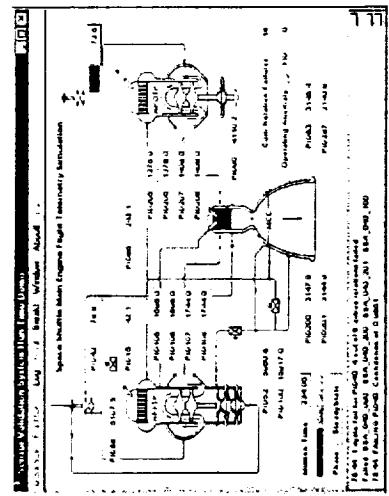
## Crew Systems

(No FY00 Funding)



IVHM Elements

VHM Technology Project



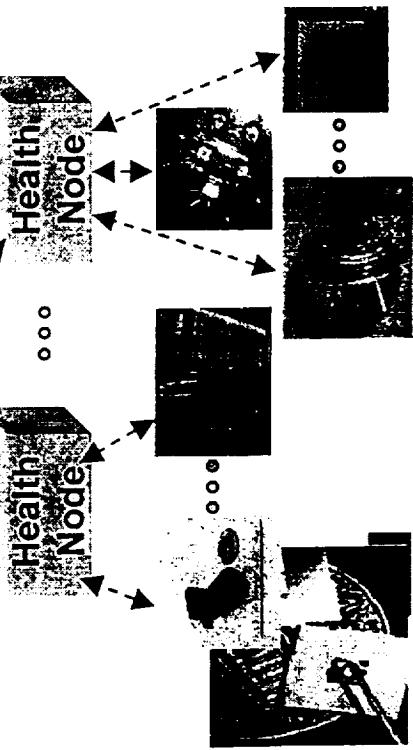
*Propulsion IVHM*  
GRC and MSFC

GRC and MSFC

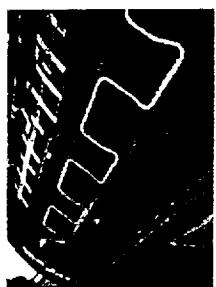
**Systems Engineering and Integration IVHM**  
ARC

ARC

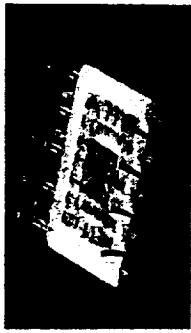
*Avionics /VHM*  
MSFC



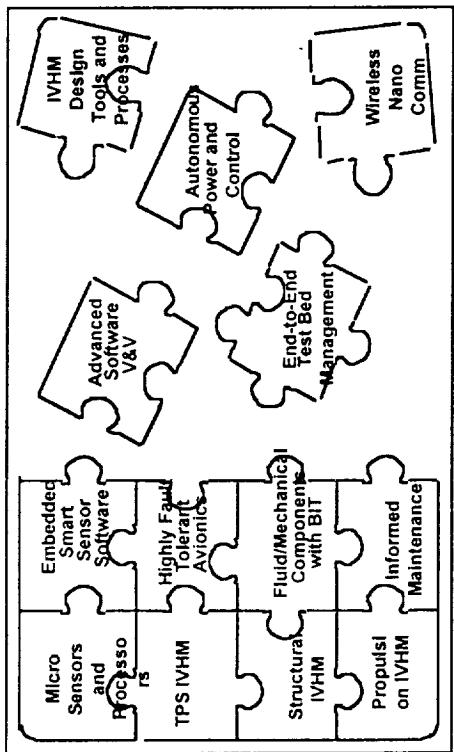
**Structures IVHM**  
LaRC



*Power /VHM*  
GRC



**Core Technologies (ARC)**  
*Information Technologies*  
Sensors  
Communications



# Systems Engineering and Integration VHM

100

**Thermal Protection Systems /VHM**  
ARC



## Project Elements

— Operations and Range Technology Project

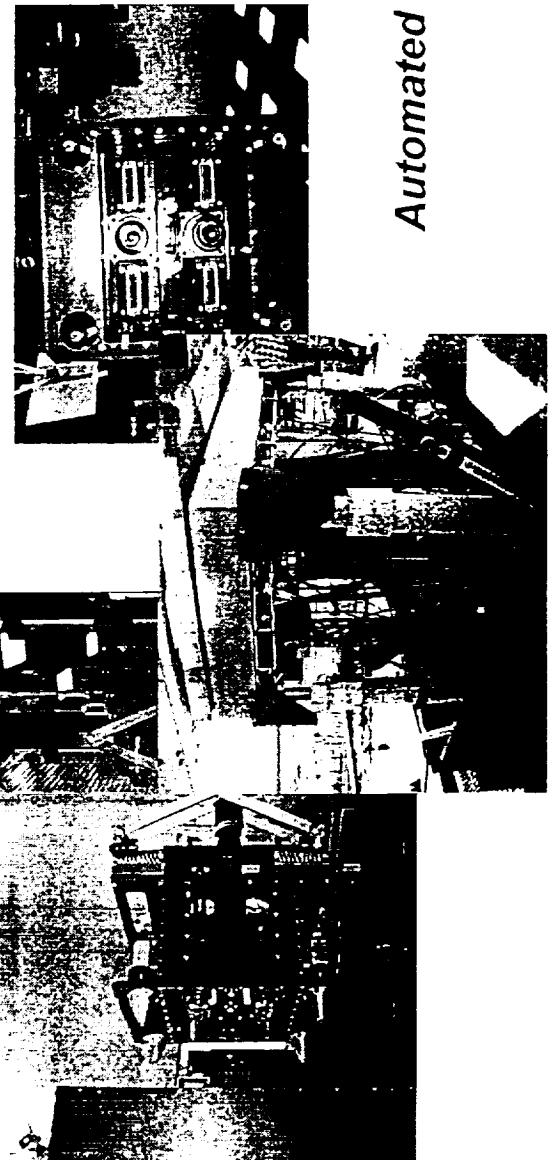
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Commercial Broadcast Stations

### *MagLev Launch Assist*

### *Spaceport Range and Operations*



*Automated Umbilical*



## Space Transportation Research

# Space Transportation Research

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### ♦ Objectives - Space Transportation Research Investment Area

- The Space Transportation Research Investment Area is responsible for developing the technologies to enable bold new missions.
- Research will pursue proof-of-concept research in revolutionary technology areas that may lead to
  - Dramatic reductions in the cost of access to space or
  - Enable new interplanetary or interstellar space missions by reducing travel times by one to two orders of magnitude.
- This investment area consists of the
  - Advanced Propulsion Research Project
  - Breakthrough Propulsion Physics Project.

### ♦ Areas

- Advanced Chemical
- Electromagnetic
- Advanced Nuclear
- Fusion / Antimatter
- Interstellar Research
- Breakthrough Propulsion Physics

